

GTA Board Meeting Minutes
August 27, 2012
City Hall
206 South Main Street, Greenville, SC
Third Floor Conference Room

Board Members in Attendance:

Mr. Matt Carter, Treasurer
Ms. Pat Dilger
Mr. Trey Fouché, Asst. Chairman
Mr. David Mitchell, Chairman
Mr. Jason Tankersley
Mr. Jan Williams
Mr. Samuel Zimmerman

Staff in Attendance:

Greg Baney, Transit Planner/Grants Manager
Lorrie Brown, Administrative Assistant
Steve Chastain, Interim Transit Operations Manager
Scott McIver, Garage Superintendent
Mark Rickards, Transit Director

Others in Attendance

Karen Crawford, City Comptroller
Rhonda Rawlings, News and Community Affairs Director for Cox Radio
Gaye Sprague, City Council Liaison
Warren Rowe, City Capital Projects Mgr.

David Mitchell, GTA Board Chairman, called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00 noon.

Mr. Matt Carter made a motion to approve the Request for Board Action to purchase a radio from Motorola for the new ADA van (which replaced the van that burned this year) at a cost of \$3,725.35 and to have the new van painted by Mike's Body Shop at a cost of \$2,437.20. Mr. Jason Tankersley seconded the motion. A vote taken, and there are no opposers. The motion carries.

Approval of July 23, 2012 Board Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Matt Carter made a motion to approve the July 23, 2012 Board Meeting Minutes. Mr. Trey Fouché seconded the motion. The Board voted. There are no opposers. The motion carries.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee Report (Given by Mr. Matt Carter):

- The Committee met on August 16. All members were present.
- The Committee discussed expenses. Contributing factors caused the fund balance to be low: 1) We are waiting on some reimbursements and 2) The City closed their books in June and one complete payroll accrued backwards. We will see a reduction in the July payroll.

August 2012 GTA Board Invoices

| Date | Company | Description | Invoice # | Amount |
|--------------|------------------------------------|---|-----------|---------------------|
| 8/8/12 | City of Greenville | GTA Board Contract – June 2012 | 74658 | 383,589.55 |
| 6/30/12 | LS3P Neal Prince | Design services – Transit Center Phase III Bike Station | 27461A | 1,257.95 |
| 8/3/12 | Mountaineer Computer Systems | AccuFund accounting software package | 6265 | 24,513.75 |
| 7/20/12 | State of SC Insurance Reserve Fund | Add collision for replacement bus | 11193694 | 48.49 |
| 8/10/12 | GTA Greenlink * | Petty cash increase by \$100 for change making | N/A | 100.00 |
| 8/15/12 | SCDMV | Tag fee for 2012 Ford Allstar bus | | 15.00 |
| 8/14/12 | TD Bank Card Services | Staff and auditor lunch expenses | | 103.08 |
| Total | | | | \$409,627.82 |

1 The invoice relates to various items, applicable portion grant funded, GTA responsible for 20%.

2 The invoice relates to JARC/New Freedom grant

3 The invoice relates to the Transit Center Renovation Phase III project, 80% grant funds, local match provided by City.

4 Board expense – no federal funding applies

* No grant expense related to the Request for Check, as the funds become part of the GTA's assets

The Finance Committee recommends to the full Board payment of total invoices of \$409,627.82 subject to the availability of funds. Since this is a recommendation from the Finance Committee, a second is not required. The Board voted. There are no opposers. The recommendation carries.

- The Committee discussed meeting annually to review the long-term planning picture for GTA finances.
- The Committee also discussed the Mauldin-Simpson route cost and impact.

Development Committee Report (Given by Mr. Trey Fouché):

- The Committee met on Monday, August 20. All members were present.
- Wil Brazington from the Alta Vista Neighborhood Association presented a request for trolley service in and around his neighborhood. He presented an executive summary that they sent to their neighborhood association members, and the number one request was trolley service. He understands this will not occur overnight and that Greenlink does not operate the trolley. Moving forward we need to continue discussions with different constituencies regarding trolley service. The Development Committee will continue to look at developing trolley service. Ms. Dilger stated that trolley service would expand our market group. Mr. Brazington is willing to do a more in depth neighborhood survey regarding the fare Alta Vista Neighborhood Association members would be willing to pay, etc. Mr. Carter stated that trolleys are an ideal way to get into some of the dense areas for choice riders. Ms. Dilger stated that Alta Vista has about 4,000 people living in the neighborhood. Chairman Mitchell stated that we have a work session with city council and perhaps trolley service discussion can take place at this session. Mr. Rickards stated the idea is that one of the trolleys has to have a commercial core serving the Drive, etc. We would have a connecting trolley that connects the neighborhoods. We need to study neighborhoods and discuss how we can link them with the core. We will work on this with Public Works who currently operate the trolley. One of the main advantages in GTA/Greenlink operating the trolley is that the purchase cost of trolley(s) is 80% funded as well as some operating costs. We hope to keep the Drive involved as a private partner in addition to the neighborhoods.
- Pat Dilger provided an update on Footloose. Footloose encourages people to live without cars as much as possible the entire month of October. Upstate Forever, REI, the Nicholtown Spinners and the Children's Museum have all signed on to participate. Mark Rickards will check with the Farmer's Market regarding having an event there with one of our buses on display. Fall for Greenville takes place the second weekend in October. CU-ICAR is our partner again for the park and ride during Fall for Greenville. The Fare Free Day takes place the week after Fall for Greenville; the Children's Museum in one of our partners for this event. Mr. Carter asked whether we have any sponsors for Footloose. Ms. Dilger asked Mr. Baney whether The Upstate Transportation Coalition would be able to assist us in raising funds. Mr. Baney stated the Upstate Transportation Coalition is on track for assembling the coalition October 1. However, we do not feel they will be able to help fund Footloose. Mr. Baney stated we discussed putting something on the bus for donations for persons taking part in the park and ride. Mr. Carter asked that we put Footloose in the budget next year since we funded it last year and this year and we were unable to get sponsors either year. Ms. Dilger stated that it is our only marketing tool. Chairman Mitchell suggested reaching out to the news media and radio stations regarding publicizing Footloose. Mr. Baney stated that due to the timing of Footloose, we could put it in the FY13 budget.
- There was a lengthy discussion on BRT and the Development Committee did not recommend pursuing TIF since it has to go through the school district. Keith Brockington gave GPAT's perspective. Mr. Carter stated he was very much in favor of the TIF idea. There may be something, similar to TIF, the Board can explore. The idea is that once a TIF district is designated people will buy or invest in the properties in the TIF district. Ms. Dilger stated that there are new market tax credits also, and both of these help to revitalize an area. Several of the station locations do not have higher density development or mixed use development. The majority of the proposed BRT route is in the city up to CUICAR. Nancy Whitworth would be the best contact with the city to discuss pursuing TIF. Karen Crawford stated that as far as Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) goes she reconciled the property tax for the city and there are lawsuits that governed how things are changing with it and some of the increment districts are harder to set up now. She stated that New Market tax credits are extremely cumbersome to understand, to report, and to audit. When the Incremental Financing district was set up, there was a base fee (the original tax amount). After new construction starts this base amount goes back to whatever district it was in whether city or county. The gravy is whatever is above this amount. It is a real number. The business improvement district is another option. This option is a tax.

The Development Committee recommends to the full board approving Request for Board Action disposing of three old cutaways that are over their useful life and using the money to purchase one GAP van. Since this is a recommendation from the Development Committee, a second is not required. The Board voted. There are no opposers. The motion carries.

- We have a request from CU-ICAR regarding the possibility of another shuttle. Chairman Mitchell assigned this item to the Development Committee.
- Chairman Mitchell asked that the Development Committee explore the possibility of having a connector between Hampton Avenue and Pete Hollis. It will be difficult for our riders to get from Hampton Avenue to Pete Hollis to board the bus due to the demolition of the bridge. Greg Baney and Councilor Sprague are researching this issue.
- Trey Fouché made a request that the Finance Committee assume exploration of TIF. It will be on the next Finance Committee Meeting agenda.

Director's Report (Given by Mark Rickards):

- Steve Chastain is officially the Interim Operations Manager. Mr. Rickards is doing due diligence in permanently filling the Operations Manager position.
- Driver turnover is an issue. Mr. Rickards is working with the Human Resource Department to get a better outreach on recruiting and adverting positions. We have an opportunity to increase our total number on the payroll.
- Mauldin-Simpsonville Update: We had two public hearings last week. Mauldin City Council passed a MOU Monday. The news media thinks the route is a good idea. We have a good cushion with having two buses. Three Gillig buses go into production at the end of August. Steve Chastain will attend the production meeting with Gillig to inspect the buses. Ribbon cutting will occur in November.
- Triennial Review Update: Greg Baney completed the Spare Utilization Plan as part of our corrective action. October 12 is the drop-dead date for having corrective actions made. Karen Crawford stated they are working on having the data imported from the old financial software to the new software program.
- Clemson Meeting and Planning: We are working with Clemson on the urbanized area funding. Mr. Rickards traveled with Al Babinicz with CAT (Clemson) to his first TASC Board Meeting. He met the Director for CMRTA (Columbia), and they have a one-cent sales tax referendum on the ballot election day for Transportation. He also met the Charleston GM, Ginger Stevens. He is optimistic GTA and CAT can work out links with Clemson together connecting the town of Clemson to Greenlink. There have been recent developments. Map 21 points to GTA being able to access more operating funds.
- The City Council work session will take place on September 17 at 4:00 p.m. on the ninth floor of City Hall. Mr. Rickards will do a power point presentation update. We are on the agenda. Board members are encouraged to attend. He will reach out to our county liaison to keep him in the loop.
- Media Relations: A reporter wanted to interview Mr. Rickards regarding the Wal-Mart stop on Whitehorse Rd. Since he did not have any information to give, he declined the interview. There was a good article on the golden strip.

Other items and/or Comments:

- We removed the shelter on East North. We will replace it next.

Mr. Matt Carter made a motion to enter into executive session. Mr. Sam Zimmerman seconded the motion. There are opposers. The motion carries.

Mr. Jason Tankersley made a motion to return to regular session. Mr. Matt Carter seconded the motion. There are no opposers. The motion carries.

Mr. Jason Tankersley made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Matt Carter seconded the motion. There are no opposers. The motion carries.

Prepared by: Lorrie Brown
Lorrie Brown, Greenlink Administrative Assistant

Date: 9/27/12

Approved by: David C. Mitchell
Mr. David Mitchell, GTA Board Chairman

Date: 10-12-2012